



Op 2783
S#2
1-688

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on October 25, 1999

By: Beatrice Cahn /Beatrice Cahn Date: 10/25/99

File No. 11598/9-127

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tiang Fong HAN

Serial No.: 09/368,125

Group Art Unit: 2783

Filed : August 4, 1999

Examiner:

For : STUD AND RIDER FOR USE ON MATRIX TRAYS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED
OCT 21 1999
TECH CENTER 2700
RECEIVED
JAN -4 2000
TC 3600 MAIL ROOM

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Sir:

Enclosed is a certified copy of the Singapore Priority Application No. 9902708-8 for the above referenced application. The date of certification is June 7, 1999, and the document is submitted to perfect the applicant's claim for priority.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Sapone
Registration No. 32,518
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Nims, Howes, Collison
Hansen & Lackert
605 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10158
212-661-9700
(#appl99)




**REGISTRY OF PATENTS
SINGAPORE**

This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy of the following Singapore patent application as filed in this Registry.

Date of Filing	:	07 JUNE 1999
Application number	:	9902708-8
Applicant(s)	:	HAN TIANG FONG
Title of Invention	:	STUD AND RIDER FOR USE ON MATRIX TRAYS

RECEIVED
OCT 21 1999
TECH CENTER 2700




Jasmine Ong (Miss)
Assistant Registrar
for REGISTRAR OF PATENTS
SINGAPORE

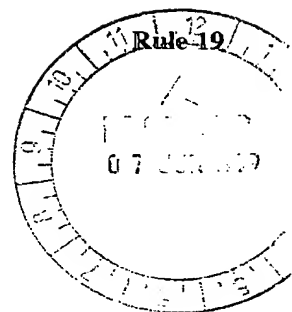
10TH SEPTEMBER 1999

PATENTS FORM 1

SINGAPORE
PATENTS ACT
(CHAPTER 221)
PATENTS RULESThe Registrar of Patents
Registry of Patents

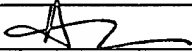
9902708-8

REQUEST FOR THE GRANT OF A PATENT



THE GRANT OF A PATENT IS REQUESTED BY THE UNDERSIGNED ON THE BASIS OF
THE PRESENT APPLICATION.

I. Title of Invention	STUD AND RIDER FOR USE ON MATRIX TRAYS			
II. Applicant(s) (See note 2)	(a) Name	HAN TIANG FONG (I/C NO. 0075259B)		
	Body Description/ Residency	A Singapore citizen		
	Street Name & Number	16 Jalan Teliti		
	City			
	State			
	Country	Singapore 537308		
	(b) Name			
	Body Description/ Residency			
	Street Name & Number			
	City			
	State			
	Country			
	(c) Name			
	Body Description/ Residency			
	Street Name & Number			
	City			
	State			
	Country			
III. Declaration of Priority (see note 3)	Country/Country Designated		File No.	
	Filing Date			
	Country/Country Designated		File No.	
	Filing Date			
	Country/Country Designated		File No.	
	Filing Date			

IV. Inventors <i>(see note 4)</i> (a) the applicant(s) is/are the sole/joint inventor(s) (b) A statement on Patents Form 8 is/will be furnished.	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> No </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No </div> </div>			
V. Name of Agent (if any) <i>(See note 5)</i>	ALLEN & GLEDHILL			
VI. Address for Service	Block/Hse No.	36	Level No	18
	Unit No./PO Box	01	Postal Code	068877
	Street Name	ROBINSON ROAD		
	Building Name	CITY HOUSE		
VII. Claiming an earlier filing date under Section 20(3), 26(6) or 47(4). <i>(See note 7)</i>	Application No.			
	Filing Date			
VII. Invention has been displayed at an International Exhibition <i>(See note 8)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
IX. Section 114 requirements <i>(See note 9)</i>	The invention relates to and/or used a micro-organism deposited for the purpose of disclosure in accordance with Section 114 with a depository authority under the Budapest Treaty <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No </div>			
XII. Check List (To be filled in by applicant or agent)	A. The application contains the following number of sheet(s):-			
	1. Request.	3	sheets	
	2. Description	7	sheets	
	3. Claim(s).	2	sheets	
	4. Drawing(s).	11	sheets	
	5. Abstract	1	sheets	
XIII. Signatures(s) <i>(See note 10)</i>	B. The application as filed is accompanied by:-			
	1. Priority document.			
	2. Translation of priority document.			
	3. Statement of Inventorship & right to grant.			
	4. International Exhibition certificate			
	Applicant (a) Date Applicant (b) Date Applicant (c) Date	<div style="text-align: center;">  7 June 1999 </div>		

NOTES:

1. This form when completed, should be brought or sent to the Registry of Patents together with the prescribed fee and 3 copies of the description of the invention, and of any drawings.
2. Enter the name and address of each applicant in the spaces provided at paragraph II. Names of individuals should be indicated in full and the surname or family name should be underline. The names of all partners in a firm must be given in full. The place of residence of each individual should also be furnished in the space provided. Bodies corporate should be designated by their corporate name and country of incorporation and, where appropriate, the state of incorporation within that country should be entered where provided. Where more than three applicants are to be named, the names and address of the fourth and any further applicants should be given on a separate sheet attached to this Form together with the signature of each of these further applicants.
3. The declaration of priority at paragraph III should state the date of the previous filing, the country in which it was made, and indicate the file number, if available. Where the application relied upon in an International Application or a regional patent application e.g. European patent application, one of the countries designated in that application [being one falling under the Patents (Convention Countries) Order] should be identified and the name of that country should be entered in the space provided.
4. Where the applicant or applicants is/are the sole inventor or the joint inventors, paragraph IV should be completed by marking the "YES" Box in the declaration (a) and the "NO" Box in the alternative statement (b). Where this is not the case, the "NO" Box in declaration (a) should be marked and a statement will be required to be filed on Patents Form 8.
5. If the applicant has appointed an agent to act on his behalf, the agent's name should be indicated in the spaces available at paragraphs V.
6. An address for service in Singapore to which all documents may be sent must be stated at paragraph VI. It is recommended that a telephone number be provided if an agent is not appointed.
7. When an application is made by virtue of section 20(3), 26(6) or 47(4), the appropriate section should be identified at paragraph VII and the number of the earlier application or any patent granted thereon identified.
8. Where the applicant wishes an earlier disclosure of the invention by him at an International Exhibition to be disregarded in accordance with section 14(4)(c), then the "YES" box at paragraph VIII should be marked. Otherwise the "NO" box should be marked.
9. Where in disclosing the invention the application refers to one or more micro-organisms deposited with a depositary authority under the Budapest Treaty, then the "YES" box at paragraph IX should be marked. Otherwise, the "NO" box should be marked.
10. Attention is drawn to rules 90 and 105 of the Patent Rules 1995. Where there are more than three applicants, see also Note 2 above.
11. Applicants resident in Singapore are reminded that if the Registry of Patents considers that an application contains information the publication of which might be prejudicial to the defence of Singapore or the safety of the public, it may prohibit or restrict its publication or communication. Any person resident in Singapore and wishing to apply for patent protection in other countries must first obtain permission from the Singapore Registry of Patents unless they have already applied for a patent for the same invention in Singapore. In the latter case, no application should be made overseas until at least two months after the application has been filed in Singapore.

For Official Use

Application Filing Date : / /
Request received on : / /
Fee received on : / /
Amount :
* Cash/Cheque/Money Order No :

* Delete whichever is inapplicable.

STUD AND RIDER FOR USE ON MATRIX TRAYS

Technical Field

This invention relates to carriers for objects and more particularly to the easy identification and/or orientation of such carriers during manufacturing processes.

- 5 The invention has particular relevance to the semiconductor industry.

Background Art

In the semiconductor industry semiconductor chips such as microprocessors and the like are packaged on carriers called matrix trays. The matrix trays carry a number of semiconductor chips which are passed along a production line for
10 assembly of completed circuit boards. The matrix trays are typically injection moulded plastics having a height of about 1cm.

The trays carry technical information relevant to the tray, the chips carried or the process, such as temperature rating, part number, date code, etc. This technical information is usually embossed on the edge of the tray, which is typically about
15 1cm high. As the trays flow through the production line the following inconveniences occur:

1. Difficulty in reading the embossed descriptions on tray surfaces, especially when they are stacked high. The printed information is not large enough due to the limited space on the edge of the tray. Also, the printed
20 characters and numbers are the same colour as the tray's surfaces so there is little contrast to aid in reading them.
2. Difficulty in identifying trays that house good chips as against those used to store rejected ones. When bad chips are identified and segregated by the machines during the assembly process, they are separated but housed onto the

9902708-8

07 JUN 1999

same type of trays. The same type of trays are needed as they are specifically designed to house a particular size and family type of chips.

3. Difficulty in identifying different types of chips within a family that use the same body dimension of the tray. As different machines are required for
5 handling a particular type of chip within a family, the use of the common tray makes it difficult to identify the correct chips for each machine.

4. Difficulty in identifying the correct tray orientation during the machine loading. The tray must be loaded manually with a specific orientation. Although present trays come with a tiny corner chamfer on one of its corners, it is not
10 conspicuous enough to ensure correct loading onto the machine.

It has been proposed to use coloured stickers to help differentiate certain trays from others. However, the stickers need to be removed before delivery to customers and this sometimes leaves adhesive material on the tray.

Disclosure of the Invention

15 In an attempt to overcome at least some of the disadvantages of existing matrix trays, in one broad form the invention provides a carrier for supporting one or more articles, the carrier including:

a main body having at least one engagement means; and

20 at least one indicator means for engagement with the engagement means, the or each at least one indicator means including means to provide information visually or tactually to an observer regarding the carrier or the articles supported thereon or both.

In a preferred form, the invention is a semi conductor matrix tray having at least one removable indicator means. The indicator means may be positioned
25 prominently along one side of the tray and be assigned different colours, shapes or numbers to indicate technical information. Preferably the colours used for the

indicator means contrast with the colour of the tray adjacent the indicator means.

Preferably the indicator means slides into a receptacle on one side of the tray. Preferably the receptacle and the indicator means are shaped so that only one
5 orientation of the indicator means relative to the receptacle is allowed. The indicator means may have a receptacle which receives a protrusion on the tray.

Preferably the indicator means includes a first part which engages in or on the edge of the tray and a second part mounted on the first part. The first part may then be made of one of a series of different colours whilst the second part may
10 also be made of one of a series of different colours and/or shape.

One or both of the first and second parts may be of a contrasting colour to the tray or the same colour. The second part may partially or totally obscure the first part when the indicator is mounted on the tray.

More than one indicator may be used on the one tray.

15 The invention will be more easily understood from the following non limiting description of a preferred embodiment and the drawings in which:

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a plan view of a matrix tray made according to the present invention.

Figure 2 is a front side view of the matrix tray of Figure 1.

20 Figure 3 is a rear side view of the matrix tray of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a plan view of the end area of the tray of Figure 1 indicated by arrow K.

Figure 5 is an end elevation of the area indicated by the arrow K.

Figure 6 is a front elevation view of a rider portion of an indicator for use with the tray of Figure 1.

Figure 7 is a rear elevation view of the rider of Figure 6.

Figure 8 is a cross-sectional view taken along line AA in Figure 6.

5 Figure 9 is an end elevation of the Figure 6 rider.

Figure 10 is a rear elevation view of a stud for use with the rider of Figures 6 to 9.

Figure 11 is an end elevation view of the stud of Figure 10.

Figure 12 is a cross-sectional view of the stud taken along line BB in Figure 10.

10 **Best Mode of Carrying out the Invention**

Referring to Figures 1 to 5 there is shown a matrix tray 10 configured to carry semiconductor chips in a 5 x 2 array. Each chip is carried in a receptacle 12. The tray 10 carries on its front side 14 temperature rating information 16 and a part number 18. Its rear side 20 also carries a part number 22 and other
15 information 24. This information is moulded into the plastics of the tray in manufacture and so is inherently difficult to read. In the prior art this is all that is available for operators to identify the trays, their content and other information relevant to the manufacturing process.

In the tray of Figures 1 to 5 one end 26 is provided with a slot 28 in its end wall
20 30 (see Figures 4 and 5). This slot is generally rectangular in shape having vertical sides 32 and horizontal base 34. The sides 32 are angled at about 60° to the end wall 30 so the width of the front of the slot 28 is less than the width at its rear. The base 34 has a semicircular protrusion 36 extending upwards. The protrusion is located off centre of the slot 28.

Referring to Figures 6 to 9 there is shown a rider 40 for insertion into the slot 28 of the tray 10. The rider 40 is generally rectangular and has the same overall width, depth and height as the slot 28. The ends 42 of the rider are also angled at 60° so that the rider may be slid into the slot 28. It will be appreciated that the angling of the ends of the slot 28 and rider 40 mean that the rider is trapped in the slot 28 and cannot fall out of the front of the recess. The bottom of the ends is chamfered at 46 to aid insertion of the rider into slot 28. The base of the rear face is also preferably chamfered at 49 to aid insertion.

The bottom edge 44 of the rider has a semicircular recess 48 which corresponds to the protrusion 36 in the slot 28. The protrusion 36 and recess 48 prevent the rider being fully inserted into the slot 28 upside down.

Protruding from the front face 50 of the rider are three identical circular protrusions 52a, b and c. These protrusions 52 are preferably equally spaced from each other with the middle protrusion 52b located at the horizontal centre of the rider. Preferably the protrusions 52 extend horizontally along a line slightly below the vertical centre of the rider. The thickness of the main portion of the rider is equal to that of the slot 28, so the protrusions 52 extend proud of the end wall 30.

Referring to Figures 10 to 12 there is shown a stud 60 for use with the rider 40. The stud 60 is generally rectangular with a planar front surface 62. The rear surface 64 has a rectangular recess 66 therein defined by peripheral walls 68 and side walls 74. Located in the centre of this recess 66 and extending from the base surface 70 toward the rear surface 64 is a circular pin 72. Preferably this pin extends just short of the rear surface 66.

The width between the side peripheral walls 74 and the distance between the pin 72 and the end walls is very slightly less than the diameter of the pins 52 of the rider 40 so that the stud may be mounted on the rider 40 by pressing the stud onto two of the pins 52 in an interference fit. This interference fit is preferably loose enough to enable easy separation and assembly of the two

parts but tight enough to prevent accidental separation. The rider may be placed on the centre pin 52b and left hand pin 52a or the centre pin 52b and right hand pin 52c. Whilst a "two pin" stud has been shown, it will be appreciated that a "three pin" stud which obscures all of the rider 40 may be used.

- 5 Because the rider has the same depth as the slot 28, the stud sits proud of the end wall. Further, because the protrusions 52 sit slightly below the centre-line of the rider, the bottom of the stud overlaps the end wall 30. The stud also overlaps the edge of the end wall, due to the angling of the ends of the slot 28. This overlapping of the end wall is neither essential or disadvantageous. If
10 desired, the rider and stud may be made so that the stud overlaps the end wall 30 to a greater extent or not at all.

The tray 10, rider 40 and stud 60 can be manufactured either of low or high temperature material, which is able to withstand baking temperatures from 0 degrees to 200 degrees Celsius. For low temperature materials ABS plastics
15 can be used. For high temperature materials, preferably compounded fiber plastics are used. Preferably the parts are manufactured in different colours to provide immediate visual information to the user. Preferably, the same material is used for all components to avoid problems with different rates of thermal expansion, but this is not essential. As examples, the tray may be manufactured
20 of a blue plastics material with the rider being manufactured in red, yellow and orange colours. The stud may be manufactured in white and blue colours. This gives six different rider/stud colour combinations.

- The colour of the rider may be used to indicate a temperature rating whilst the colour of the stud could be used to indicate the status of the chips to be housed.
25 One colour could mean good chips and another colour could mean reject chips requiring further analysis.

A second rider/stud may be provided to indicate the specific chip in a family of chips which is carried by the tray. Additional recesses and indicators as needed fall within the scope of the invention.

The use of contrasting colours also aids the user in both segregating different "types" of trays from each other but also aids in correct alignment. For example, a yellow rider with a red 2 pin stud may be provided. The user will be educated to align the trays with the rider/stud combination at one end with the exposed
5 part of the yellow rider to the right of the red stud.

It will be appreciated that the rider may be provided with more than three pins. For example, a four pin rider will allow a "two pin" stud to be placed centrally, with a pin exposed on either side or to be located to one side, with two pins exposed on either the left or right. Use of a three pin stud would allow one or two
10 pins to be exposed, to either the left or right side of the stud. Thus the number and position of the exposed pins may be used in sorting and alignment, as well as the colours of the pin and stud.

Whilst the engagement of the rider with the tray in the preferred form of the invention utilises a recess into which the rider slides, the invention is not limited
15 to this specific format. For example, the same pin/recess interference fit type engagement may be utilised to attach the rider to the tray.

It will be appreciated that many modifications may be made to the embodiment described herein to those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention.

The Claims

1. A carrier for supporting one or more articles, the carrier including:
a main body having at least one engagement means; and
5 at least one indicator means for engagement with the engagement means, the or each at least one indicator means including means to provide information visually or tactually to an observer regarding the carrier or the articles supported thereon or both.
2. The carrier of claim 1 wherein said visual or tactile information is
10 provided by different colour or colours of the indicator means or by different shaped portions of the indicator means or both.
3. The carrier of any one of the preceding claims or wherein at least part of the or each indicator means is a different colour to the main body adjacent the indicator means.
- 15 4. The carrier of any one of the preceding claims wherein the or each one indicator means includes a first part adapted to engage the main body and a second part attached to the first part.
5. The carrier of claim 4 wherein the second part is releasably attached to the first part.
- 20 6. The carrier of any one of claims 4 or 5 wherein the second part is attachable to the first part in at least two positions or at least two orientations or both.
7. The carrier of any one of claims 4 to 6 wherein the first part or the second part or both include portions whose shape provides visual information to
25 the user.

8. The carrier of any one of claims 4 to 6 wherein one of the first and second part has at least one protrusion and the other has at least one recess for receiving the at least one protrusion.

9. The carrier of any one of the preceding claims wherein the
5 engagement means or each indicator means includes a recess receiving for the other.

10. The carrier of any one of the preceding claims wherein the engagement means and indicator means are configured such that the indicator means only correctly engages in the respective engagement means in one
10 orientation.

11. The carrier of any one of the preceding claims being a semiconductor chip matrix tray.

12. The carrier of any one of the preceding claims wherein one or both of the body and the at least one indicator means is made of a material capable
15 of withstanding a baking temperature range of 0 to 200 degrees Celsius.

13. A carrier, substantially as herein described with reference to the drawings.

ABSTRACT**STUD AND RIDER FOR USE ON MATRIX TRAYS**

A carrier for articles has a main body (10) with one or more engagement means (28) for receiving one or more indicators (40, 60). The indicators (40, 60) have
5 one or more contrasting colours compared to the colour of the main body (10). The colour or shape or both of the indicator provides the user with information regarding the articles, carrier or characteristics of the articles or carrier.

(Fig. 1)

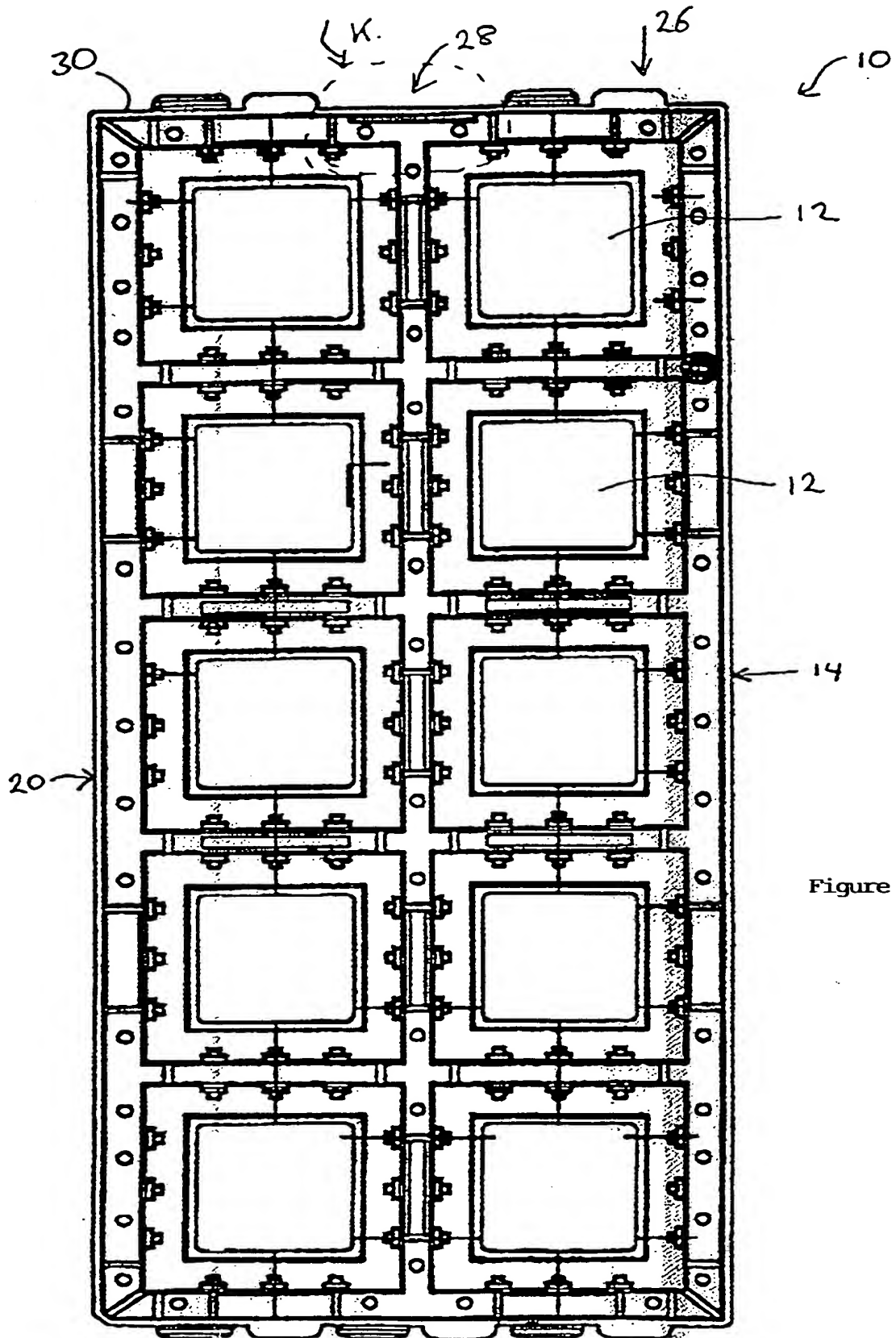
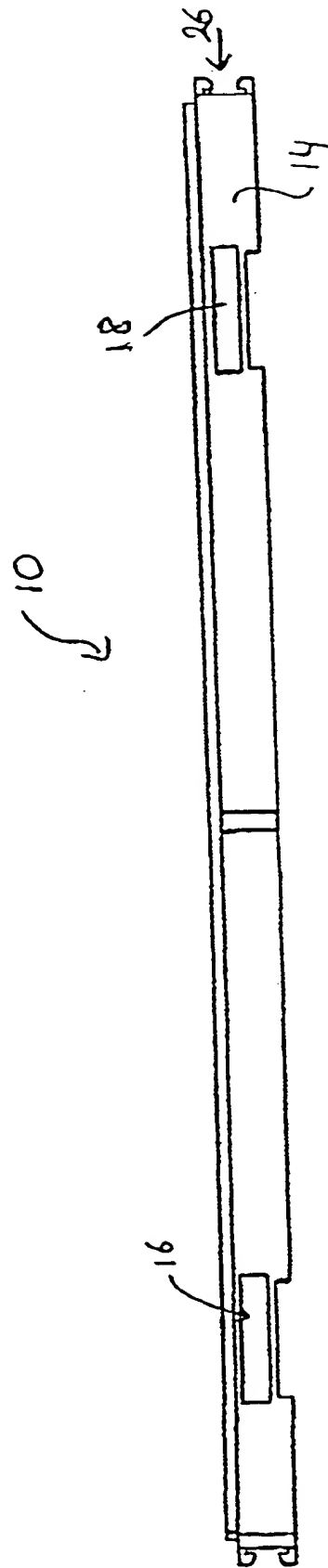


Figure 1

Figure 2



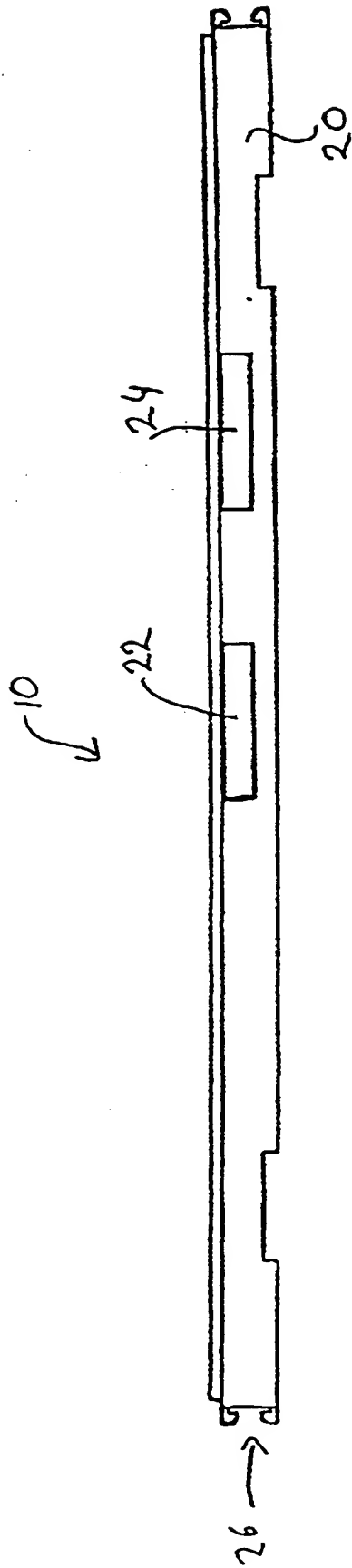


Figure 3

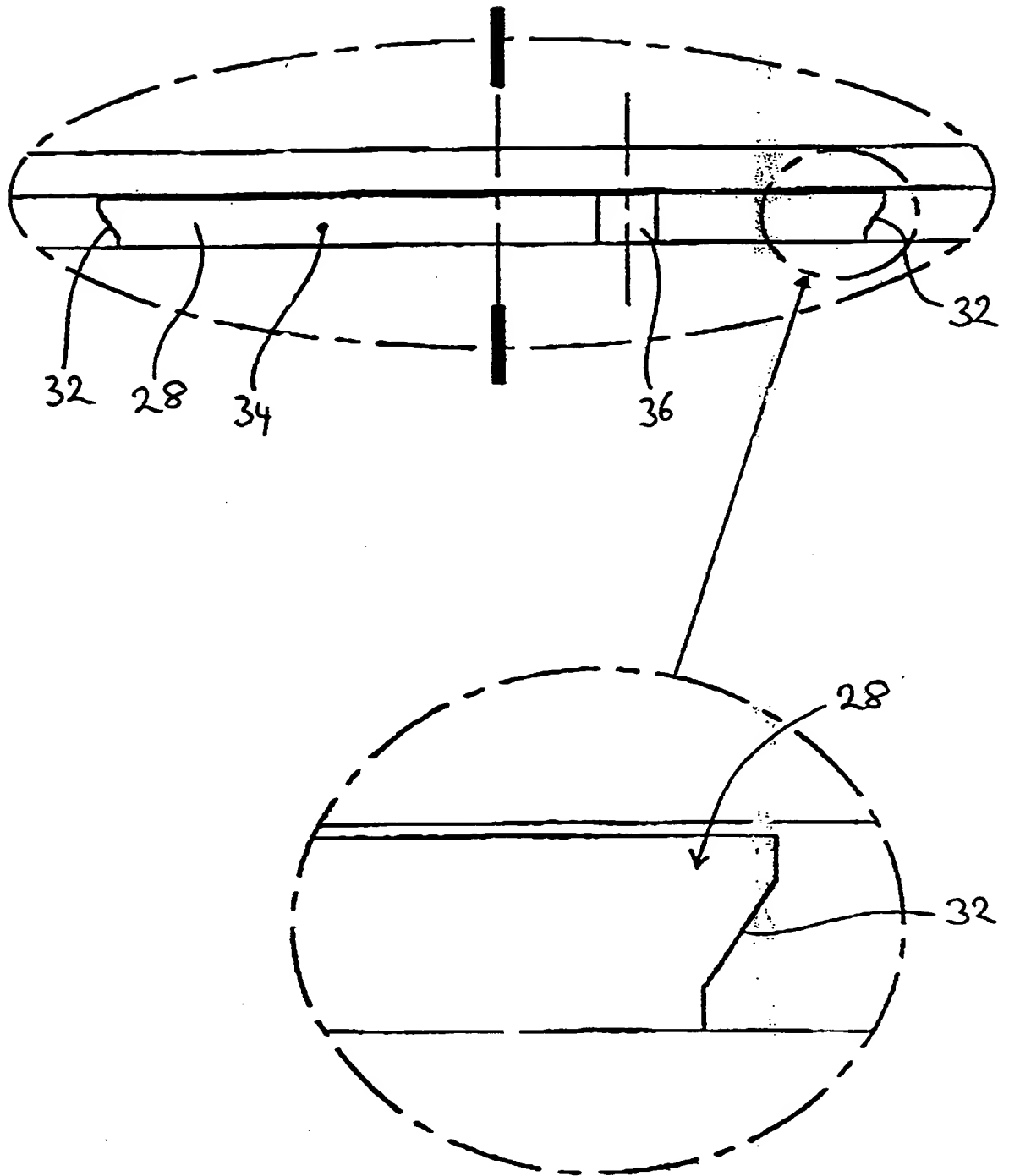


Figure 4

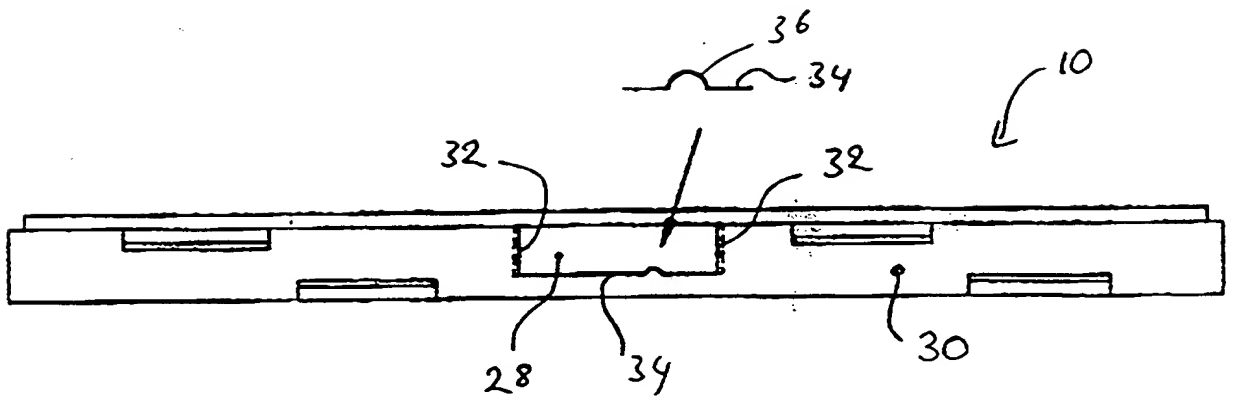


Figure 5

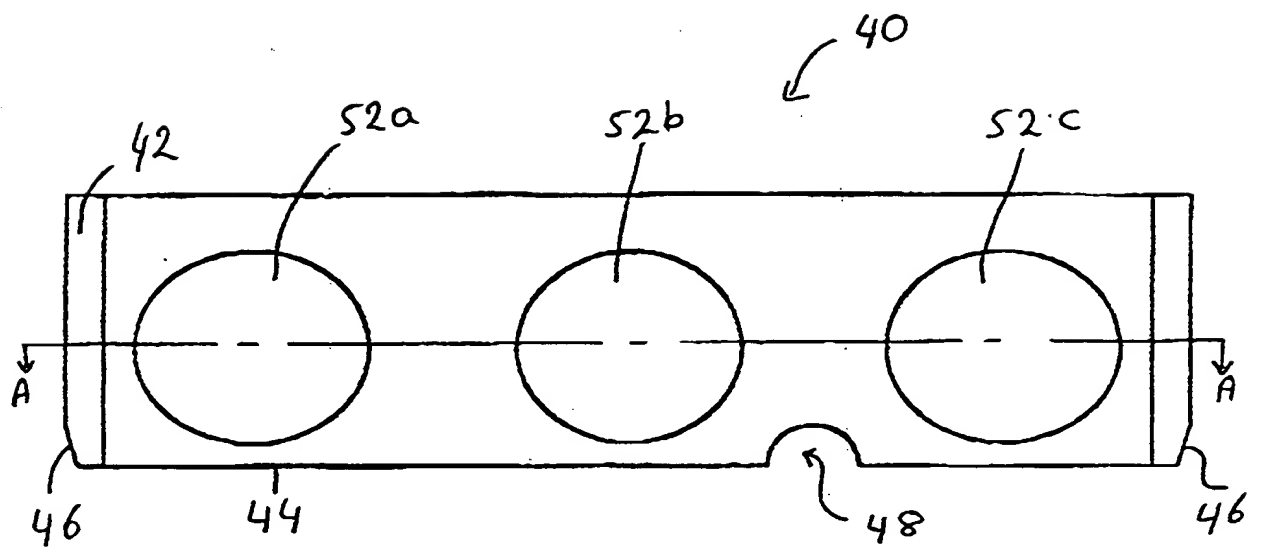


Figure 6

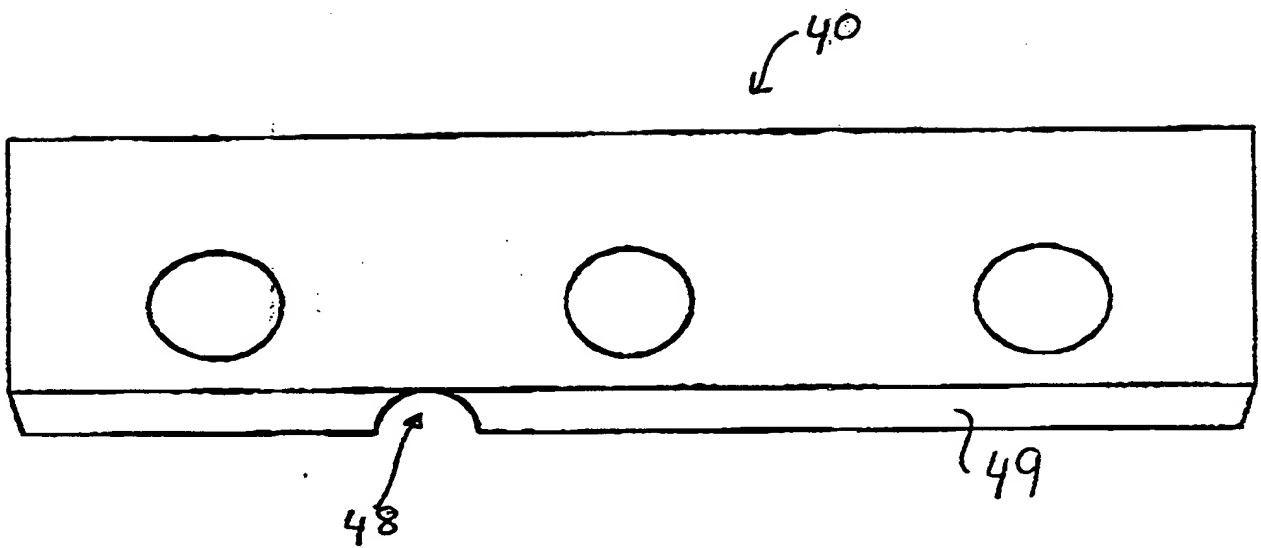


Figure 7

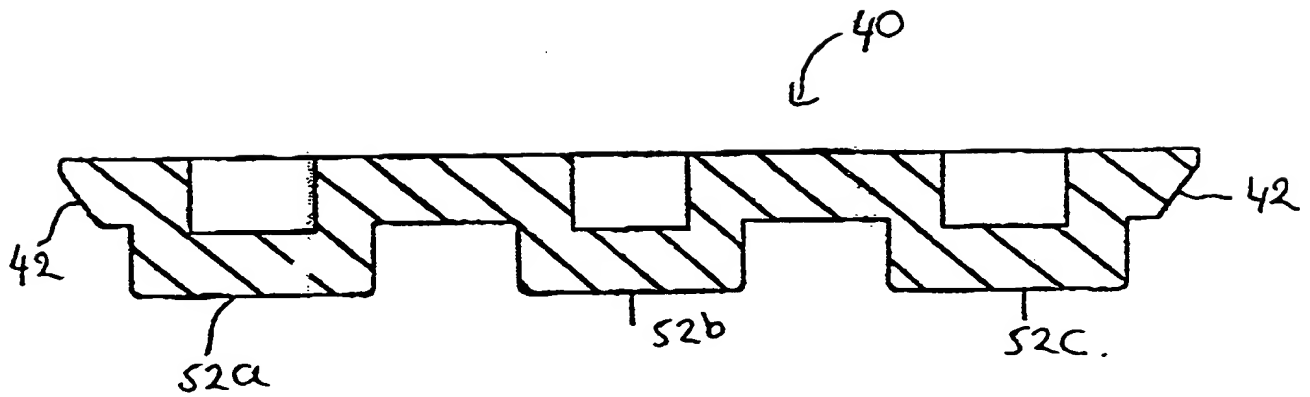


Figure 8

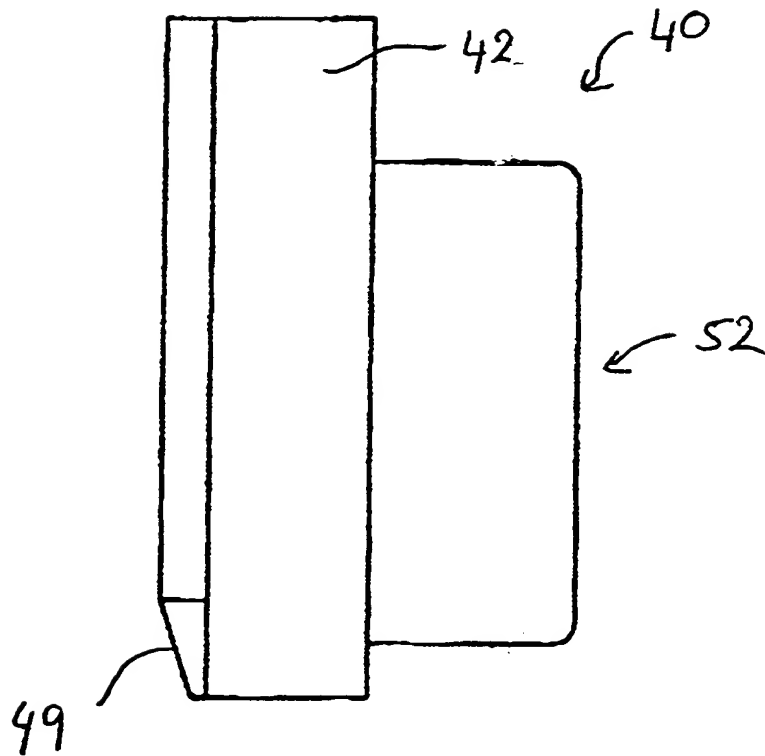


Figure 9

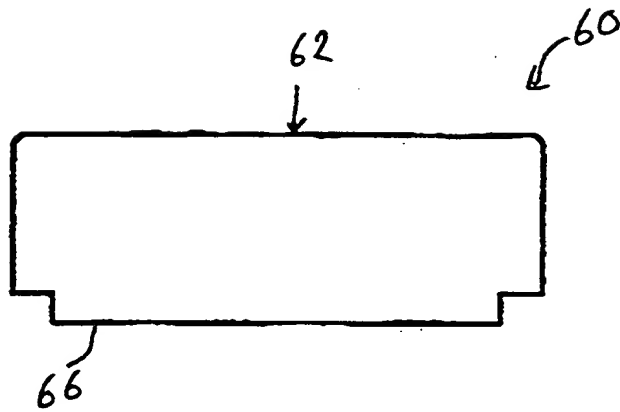


Figure 11

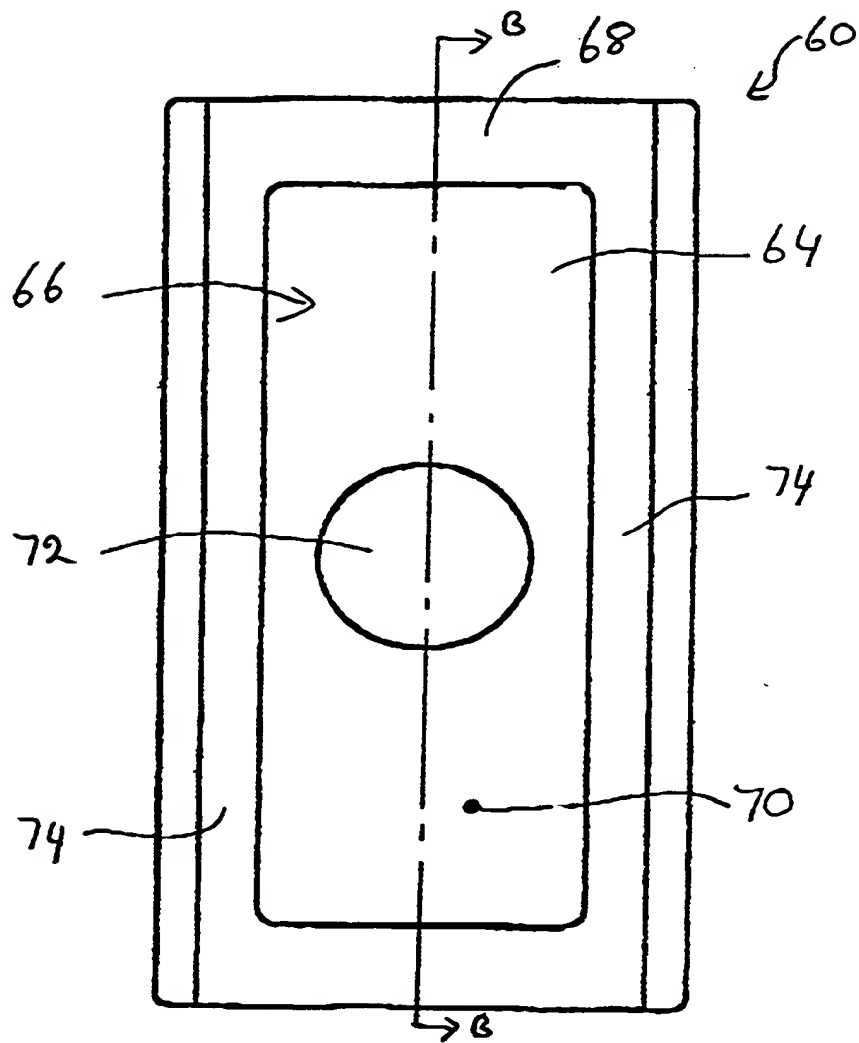


Figure 10

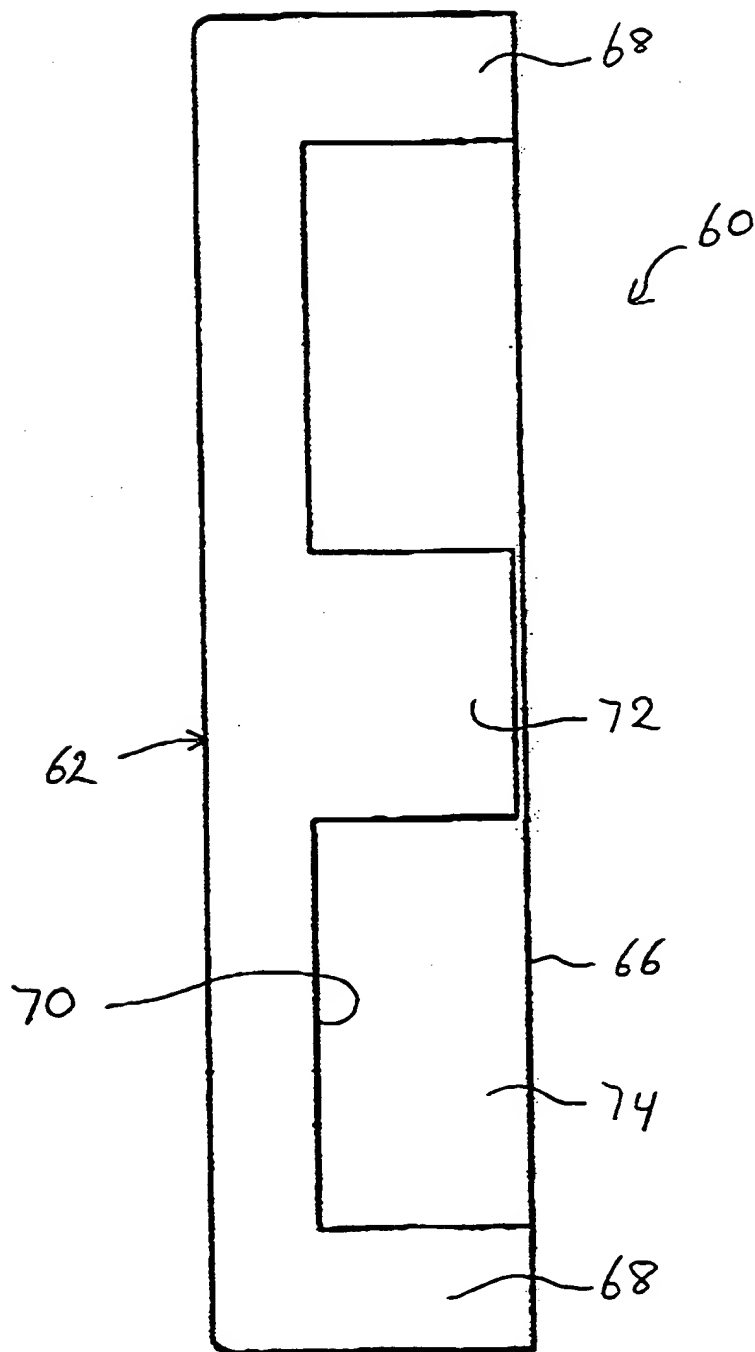


Figure 11